

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as noted in the replacement claims below:

1. - 3. Cancelled

4. (New) A method for handling network events generated in a network in an enterprise, the method comprising:

detecting at least one of a plurality of network events; and

executing an action tree in response to the network event, the action tree including instructions based on relationships between enterprise-related data objects, the relationships defined by at least one data impact analysis data structure populated with data accessed from a plurality of data sources throughout the network.

5. (New) The method of claim 4 further comprising:

identifying a workstation affected by the detected network event;

determining at least administrator and at least one business unit affect by the network event; and

contacting the at least administrator regarding the detected network event.

6. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of determining at least one administrator and at least one business unit includes the determination being made by traversing the impact data analysis data structure.

7. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein the execution of the action tree is performed by a policy engine.

8. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein the enterprise-related data objects include organization nodes that define the organizational structure of the enterprise.

9. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the organizational structures include at least one of: a host, a communication device, a user and a document.

10. (New) The method of claim 8 further comprising:

accessing the enterprise-related data objects through a networked database.

11. (New) The method of claim 4 further comprising:

hibernating the action tree, including saving a current state of the action tree to a state database.

12. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the state database is within an impact server.

13. (New) The method of claim 11 further comprising:

awakening the action tree from a hibernated state in response to wakeup call message.

14. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the wakeup call message is an electronic mail message.

15. (New) An apparatus for handling network events generated in a network in an enterprise, the apparatus comprising:

an event broker operative to detect at least one of a plurality of network events;
and

an impact server operative to execute an action tree in response to the network event, the action tree including instructions based on relationships between enterprise-related data objects, the relationships defined by at least one impact analysis data structure populated with data accessed from a plurality of data sources throughout the network.

16. (New) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the impact server is further operative to identify a workstation affected by the detected network event, determine at least administrator and at least one business unit affect by the network event and contact the at least administrator regarding the detected network event.

17. (New) The apparatus of claim 15 further comprising:
a policy engine disposed within the impact server, wherein the execution of the action tree is performed by the policy engine.

18. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the enterprise-related data objects include organization nodes that define the organizational structure of the enterprise.

19. (New) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the organizational structures include at least one of: a host, a communication device, a user and a document.

20. (New) The apparatus of claim 15 further comprising:
a networked database having the enterprise-related data objects stored therein, such that accessing the enterprise-related data objects through a networked database.

21. (New) The apparatus of claim 15 further comprising:
a state database; and
the impact server is further operative to hibernate the action tree, including saving a current state of the action tree to the state database.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the impact server is further operative to awaken the action tree from a hibernated state in response to wakeup call message.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the wakeup call message is an electronic mail message.